

Contact: Tom Cook 406-444-1645 Release: Receipt

## STUDENTS FROM ACROSS THE STATE LEARN WHAT IT IS TO BE A MONTANAN

Students from 128 schools from 43 counties have come to Helena to experience what it means to be a Montanan by touring the Montana Historical Society Museum, the Original Governor's Mansion and the State Capitol in the past six months.

"In my view we are at our best when we are giving tours to curious, giggling and excited young Montanans," MHS Director Bruce Whittenberg said. "At its heart, the Montana Historical Society is all about education, and these students will become tomorrow's citizens and leaders."

MHS provides tours of Montana's Museum, the OGM and the State Capitol as well as educational travelling footlockers, curriculum guides, teacher workshops and other assistance for schools across the state.

"Most schools are using 'Montana: Stories of the Land,' the history book that MHS produced and distributed across the state," Whittenberg said. "We also have a computer listserv that we created to communicate with more than 700 history and social studies teachers across the state on a weekly basis."

During the legislative session students also get to see lawmakers in action when they tour the Capitol.

"After they experience the history of Montana and view the wonderful art and artifacts in the Museum and the Capitol that tell our story, students get to see how lawmakers of today are dealing with the Montana of tomorrow," Whittenberg said.

For more information on the educational and other services provided statewide to all Montanans you can log on to [www.montanahistoricalsociety.org](http://www.montanahistoricalsociety.org).